IV.—CALLING ATTENTION TO FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO FIX SALARY OF SANSKRIT PANDITS IN BOARD HIGH SCHOOLS IN MADURAI DISTRICT

THIRU G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your kind and special prior permission, on behalf of Thiru M. Rajah Iyer, I wish to call the attention of the Hon. the Minister for Education and Industries to a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the failure of the Government to fix the salary of Sanskrit Pandits serving in the (former) Board High Schools in the Madurai district since 1st June 1960.

THE HON. THIRU V. R. NEDUNCHEZHIYAN : Sir, It has been reported that there are no cases relating to non-fixation of pay of Sanskrit Pandits serving in the former District Board High Schools in Madurai district since 1st June 1960 except in respect of one Thiru K. R. Venkatasubramania Sastrigal. This teacher was employed originally in a private school as Sanskrit Pandit prior to and on 1st January 1948. He entered the District Board service in the High School at Batlaguntu from 1951. It was represented to Government that his pay was not correctly fixed by the then Madurai District Board authorities in the then scale of Rs. 60-4-120. The pay of Pandits, Grade I, was revised at the time of general revision of scales of pay in 1960, as Rs. 140—5—180—10—250, but the teacher did not get full benefits of fixation at the correct stage due to the wrong fixation of his pay in 1951 by the Madurai Dist ict Board.

His representation is under consideration of the Government in consultation with the Director of School Education. Various details have to be collected before the case is finalised. Orders will be issued as early as possible.

V.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR 1968-69—*cont.*

3-40 p.m. * THIRUMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Chief Minister of Madras and his Cabinet on a progressive year of service in Madras State. This year has shown a great increase in food production. The bumper yield, the initiation of two crops of paddy in Thanjavur district and also crops in other areas have yielded good harvest. The food situation has greatly improved specially in rice and Madras State is now able to supply rice to our neighbouring State, Kerala.

I also congratulate the Chief Minister on giving a balanced revenue budget without any recourse to additional taxes and this indeed is a matter for satisfaction.

Madras State has had a wondrous year in the last two months. It has become the epicentre of International events. The Second International Tamil Conference brought a large crowd unprecedented to Madras and there was a large delegation of 430, of whom over 200 were foreign delegates from 40 countries of the world. The City became the hub of cultural, historical and educational meets and the ancient Tamil Language in all its beauty, grace and